

Listing of the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1.-8. (CANCELLED)
9. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method of treating a periodontal disease, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof a viscous preparation for dental use which comprises basic fibroblast growth factor (bFGF) as an effective ingredient and hydroxypropyl cellulose as a thickener, wherein the hydroxypropyl cellulose is a hydroxypropyl ether derivative of cellulose, containing 53.4-77.5% of hydroxypropyl group when a dried material is determined.
- 10-11. (CANCELLED)
12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 9, wherein the periodontal disease is periodontosis.
13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 9, wherein bFGF comprises 0.0001 to 20% by weight of the total weight of the preparation.
- 14 - 16. (CANCELLED)
17. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 9, wherein the periodontal disease is selected from the group consisting of repair of periodontium after tooth extraction, repair of periodontium after removal of a cyst, repair of periodontium after removal of an oral cavity cancer, progress of fixation of implanting material, and regeneration of dentin defected by dental caries.
18. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 9, wherein the viscous preparation further comprises an inactive and non-toxic additive and a solution for dissolution.
19. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 9, wherein the viscous preparation for dental use is prepared by dissolving bFGF, a thickener, and if necessary, an inactive and non-toxic additive into a solution for dissolution.
20. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 18, wherein the solution for dissolution is water.

21. (CANCELLED)
22. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 9, wherein the viscous preparation has a viscosity of 20 to 25,000 mPa's when measured at 25°C by using an E type viscometer.
23. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 22, wherein the viscous preparation has a viscosity of 1,000 to 20,000 mPa s.
24. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 22, wherein the viscous preparation has viscosity of 3,000 to 15,000 mPa's.
25. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 9, and wherein the viscous preparation further stably retains bFGF activity at 25°C at a remaining ratio of at least 98.9 level for at least 42 hours.
26. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 9, and wherein the viscous preparation further stably retains bFGF activity at 25°C at a remaining ratio of 99.1 level for at least 42 hours.
27. (NEW) The method of claim 9, wherein the viscous preparation further stably retains bFGF activity at 25°C at a remaining ratio of 98.1 level for at least 24 hours.